

## **Youth Climate Leaders Program 2024 - Information Sheet**

### **Overview**

The Tasmanian Youth Climate Leaders Program supports young people (aged 10-18 years) to build capacity to take action on climate change. The program runs between March and September each year, and involves students working with their peers to gain a greater understanding of climate change and deliver a climate action project.

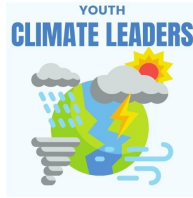
The program aims to build a network of young people who are passionate about climate science, climate justice, STEM, and sustainability, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to support on- ground actions in their local communities and beyond.

### **What's involved**

Central to the program are twice yearly conferences held in the North, North West and South of the state. All program participants are encouraged to attend both conferences in their region, with the supervision of a teacher or equivalent adult. These conferences bring together students from their region, and provide a space for students to explore climate science, climate change issues and types of climate action through connecting with their peers, mentorship, participating in workshops and sharing ideas. Topics explored include biodiversity, food security, transport, energy, climate justice, health and the circular economy.

The aim of the first conference is for participants to have gained a broad understanding of climate change issues and actions, and developed the foundations of their own climate action project.

Climate action projects are generally delivered within a school, but can be delivered in a local community. These projects are developed and implemented with the support of mentors and youth program officers. Projects are student led, and students are encouraged to develop their projects with their peers, working as a team to plan and implement their project. Past successful projects are those where students have the support of teachers or supervising adult equivalents who are able to give them the space, time and support to implement their projects.



Opportunities for mentors to connect with students to further explore climate science, impacts, action and feelings as projects are developed and implemented are made available to participants throughout the year.

Regular on-line sessions facilitated by the program coordinator and youth program officers provide a space for students to connect, problem-solve and seek support for their projects from their peers throughout the state.

Teachers and equivalent adult supervisors are also able to connect with the program coordinator and youth program officers to answer any questions or seek further support for their students. Resources will be provided to teachers and equivalent adult supervisors to support their knowledge and teachings.

At the second conference, students will share their project and lessons learned from its implementation with their peers. Students will also have the opportunity to voice their thoughts and ask questions on what climate action should look like in Tasmania to government representatives who will be in attendance. Opportunities to participate in workshops, connect with mentors and remotely report back will also be available outside of conferences for those students unable to attend but who would like to participate in the program.

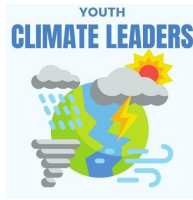
### **Support to participate**

Travel and project grants are available for student participation and project implementation.

**Travel grants** are available upon request and can cover bus transfer, ferries, car hire or flights.

**Project grants** will be available to support the implementation of each project.

Teachers or equivalent adult supervisors are encouraged to apply for support for their students to participate in the program, especially those from rural or isolated communities, including the Bass Strait Islands. When applications for support are open, they will be available on our website.



## **Program Outcomes**

Participants in the program will gain:

- A greater understanding of climate science, the impacts of climate change and the solutions
- Skills to engage with others to take climate action
- Hope and resilience for the future

At the end of the program, all participants will receive a certificate of participation.

## **How to be involved:**

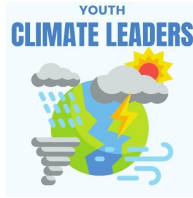
**Students** from any part of lutruwita / Tasmania that are aged 10 to 18 years, from an educational organisations such as public or private schools, and homeschool groups, can participate in this program. Students should have an interest in climate and sustainability related issues, have a willingness to learn more and gain the skills to take action in their organisation or communities, and be identified as an emerging or potential youth leader in their organisation.

We encourage small groups (<10 participants) of students from each organisation to participate. These groups of students are encouraged to form a youth leadership group or climate council to work together on implementing their projects.

Teachers or equivalent supervising adults are encouraged to register student interest in the program early. This can be done via our website (<https://slt.org.au/yclp/>) .

**Mentors** come from a range of backgrounds including universities, government agencies and not for profits. They have expertise in a range of climate and sustainability areas including social sciences, waste management, biodiversity, food security, transport, energy and climate justice. Mentors will be matched to youth leadership groups, based on area of interest, location and availability.

Mentors are encouraged to register their interest in being involved in the program anytime. This can be done via our website (<https://slt.org.au/yclp/>).



## **Key Dates:**

### **Conferences**

- South – Friday March 15 and Tuesday 17 September 2024
- North West – Monday March 18 and Thursday 19 September 2024
- North – Tuesday March 19 and and Friday 20 September 2024

### **For more information:**

Visit our website - <http://www.slt.org.au/yclp>

Contact the team - [yclp@slt.org.au](mailto:yclp@slt.org.au)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.